From: Bruce Brehm
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/20/01 5:51pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Plain and Simple:

The software code to the windows operating system should be made part of the public domain...

Then all software developers will have complete access to the underlying operating system (OS) code; preventing any unfair gain for Microsoft (MS) to practice 'trickery' within the OS to prevent third parties from creating alternative software products that could possibly outperform MS applications at cheaper costs...

For example, what if somehow the first person who created a means for sending and decoding normal television transmissions from the airways, had patented the process, virtually taken control of all the transmission stations, and didn't tell everyone exactly what the limitations of the transmitted signal was that was being used... Only television companies who it liked could use the airways in the best possible fashion... Without full disclosure, they could just tweak the system a bit, so that the picture that they were able to provide on one manufactured TV was slightly better the signal that was possible on competing TV.

Is this not what MS has done in the software industry?

Bruce B. Brehm